

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending in the application. Although Applicant respectfully disagrees with the restriction requirement, claims 10-15 and 25-30 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges Examiner's indication that claims 5-9 and 20-24 include allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten as suggested in the Office Action.

Claims 1-4 and 16-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) and being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,832,126 to Tanaka in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,317,714 to Del Castillo et al. Although Applicant strongly disagrees with the claim rejections, the claims have been amended to place the application in condition for allowance. A marked-up version illustrating the claim amendments is annexed hereto.

In particular, claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of canceled claim 5. Since Examiner has indicated that claim 5 includes allowable subject matter, claim 1 and all claims that depend therefrom are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Further, claim 16 has been amended to include the subject matter of canceled claim 20. Since Examiner has indicated that claim 20 includes allowable subject matter, claim 16 and all claims that depend therefrom are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, the withdrawal of the claim rejections under §103 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Marked-Up Version Illustrating Claim Amendments

1. (Amended) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for providing accelerated data storage, said method steps comprising:

receiving a digital data stream at an input data transmission rate which is greater than a data storage rate of a target storage device;

compressing the digital data stream at a compression rate that increases the effective data storage rate of the target storage device; and

storing the compressed digital data stream in the target storage device,

wherein the instructions for performing the step of compressing comprise instructions for performing the steps of:

reading a first parameter that is indicative of a compression type to be applied to the input digital data stream; and

selecting at least one allowable encoder based on the first parameter.

6. (Amended) The program storage device of claim [5] 1, wherein the compression type is one of lossless data compression, lossy data compression, and a combination thereof.

7. (Amended) The program storage device of claim [5] 1, wherein the input digital data stream comprises a plurality of data blocks and wherein each data block has a first parameter associated therewith indicative of a compression type to be applied to the data block.

8. (Amended) The program storage device of claim [5] 1, further comprising instructions for performing the step of reading a second data parameter that is indicative of an amount of information loss that is permissible, if lossy data compression is selected.

16. (Amended) A method for providing accelerated data storage, comprising the steps of: receiving a digital data stream at an input data transmission rate which is greater than a data storage rate of a target storage device;

compressing the digital data stream at a compression rate that increases the effective data storage rate of the target storage device; and

storing the compressed digital data stream in the target storage device,

wherein the step of compressing comprises the steps of:

reading a first parameter that is indicative of a compression type to be applied to the input digital data stream; and

selecting at least one allowable encoder based on the first parameter.

21. (Amended) The method of claim [20] 16, wherein the compression type is one of lossless data compression, lossy data compression, and a combination thereof.

22. (Amended) The method of claim [20] 16, wherein the input digital data stream comprises a plurality of data blocks and wherein each data block has a first parameter associated therewith indicative of a compression type to be applied to the data block.

23. (Amended) The method of claim [20] 16, further comprising the step of reading a second parameter that is indicative of an amount of information loss that is permissible, if lossy data compression is selected.